

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus ~~product~~ for applying a coating to a food product comprising:
  - a first container for storing the coating;
  - a second container for holding at least a portion of the coating prior to deposition of the coating on the food product; and
  - at least one wheel comprising at least two coaxial disks, wherein the two disks are spaced apart to form an inner space, and wherein the two outer faces of each disk comprise at least a portion of the outer surface of the wheel, and wherein at least a portion of the wheel is positioned in the first container and at least a portion of the wheel is positioned proximate at least a portion of the second container such that upon rotation of the wheel, the wheel transfers coating from the first container to the second container.
2. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 1, wherein coating from the first container is capable of at least partially covering the outer surface of both disks and at least partially filling the inner space between the two disks as the wheel is rotated.

3. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 1, wherein the first container is positioned below the second container such that as the wheel is rotated, coating is lifted from the first container to the second container.

4. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 1, wherein the second container comprises means to remove coating from the wheel and to deliver the coating to the second container.

5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 1, wherein the second container comprises at least one protrusion adapted to remove coating from the wheel and to deliver the coating to the second container.

6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 5, wherein the second container comprises a first protrusion extending at least partially into the inner space between the two disks.

7. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 6, wherein the second container comprises a second protrusion adjacent to the outer face of the first disk and a third protrusion adjacent to the outer face of the second disk.

8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 1, wherein the second container comprises slots for each disk, such that as the disks rotate through the second container, coating is removed from the outer surface of both disks and the inner space between the disks and is deposited in the second container.

9. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 1, wherein the second container comprises a trough.

10. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 1, wherein the second container comprises an opening adapted to allow at least a portion of the coating to exit from the second container.

11. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 10, wherein the opening in the second container further comprises a ledge extending from the opening.

12. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 11, wherein the ledge further comprises at least one vertical face.

13. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 10, wherein the opening is adapted to allow a portion of the coating to flow from the second container as a thin curtain of coating.

14. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 1, further comprising a conveyor to transport at least one food product beneath the second container.
15. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 14, wherein the conveyor comprises a plurality of rubber rings.
16. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 1, wherein the food product comprises a dough-based product.
17. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 1, wherein the food product comprises doughnuts.
18. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 1, wherein the coating comprises a sugar-based coating.
19. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 1, wherein the coating comprises a glaze mixture.
20. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 1, wherein the disks comprise plastic.

21. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 1, wherein the disks are up to about 4 feet in diameter.

22. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 1, wherein the disks are from about one foot to about two feet in diameter.

23. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 1, wherein the wheel comprises at least one additional disk positioned between the first and second disks.

24. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 1, wherein the wheel comprises an spacer that is positioned between the two disks so as to reduce the inner space between the two disks.

25. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 1, wherein the second container is adapted to transfer coating to at least one food product in excess and wherein the first container is positioned to receive the excess coating from the second container.

26. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 1, further comprising an aperture adapted to drain coating from the first container.

27. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 1, further comprising a water jacket that surrounds at least a portion of the first container.

28. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 27, wherein the water jacket is adapted to maintain the temperature of a coating positioned in the first container.

29. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 1, further comprising a second wheel, the second wheel comprising at least two coaxial disks, wherein the two disks of the second wheel are spaced apart to form an inner space, and wherein the two outer faces of each disk comprise at least a portion of the outer surface of the second wheel.

30. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 29, wherein the first container comprises a divider positioned to divide the first container into a first sub-container and a second sub-container, wherein at least a portion of the first wheel is positioned in the first sub-container and wherein at least a portion of the second wheel is positioned in the second sub-container.

31. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 30, wherein the divider comprises a closable port adapted allow mixing of the contents of each sub-container.

32. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 29, wherein the second container comprises a panel to divide the second container into a first sub-trough and a second sub-trough, wherein at least a portion of the first wheel is positioned proximate at least part of the first sub-trough and wherein at least a portion of the second wheel is positioned proximate at least part of the second sub-trough.
33. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 32, wherein the second container comprises a slot into which the panel is inserted.
34. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 1, wherein the transfer of the coating from the first container to the second container provides a visual display which may be viewed by an observer.
35. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 34, wherein the visual display comprises a feature which may be displayed in a retail setting.

36. (Original) A process of applying a coating to at least one food product comprising:
- (a) at least partially filling a first container with a coating;
  - (b) positioning at least one wheel comprising at least two coaxial disks such that at least a portion of the wheel is positioned in the first container and at least a portion of the wheel is positioned proximate to at least a portion of a second container, wherein the two disks are spaced apart to form an inner space, and wherein the two outer faces of each disk comprise at least a portion of the outer surface of the wheel;
  - (c) rotating the wheel such that at least a portion of the coating from the first container is transferred to the second container; and
  - (d) covering at least a portion of the surface of at least one food product with the coating from the second container.
37. (Original) The process of claim 36, further comprising rotating the wheel such that at least a portion of the outer surface of both disks is covered with the coating from the first container and at least a portion of the inner space between the two disks is filled with the coating.
38. (Original) The process of claim 36, wherein the first container is positioned below the second container such that the wheel lifts the coating from the first container to the second container.



39. (Original) The process of claim 36, wherein the second container comprises a means to remove at least a portion of the coating from the wheel.

40. (Original) The process of claim 36, wherein the second container comprises at least one protrusion, and further comprising removing at least a portion of the coating from the wheel with the at least one protrusion.

41. (Original) The process of claim 40, wherein the second container comprises a first protrusion extending at least partially into the inner space between the two disks, a second protrusion adjacent the outer face of the first disk, and a third protrusion adjacent the outer face of the second disk.

42. (Original) The process of claim 36, wherein the second container comprises slots for insertion of each disk, such that as the disk rotates through the second container, coating is removed from the outer surface of both disks and deposited in the second container.

43. (Original) The process of claim 36, wherein the wheel comprises at least one additional disk positioned between the first and second disks.

44. (Original) The process of claim 36, wherein the wheel comprises an internal spacer that is positioned between the two disks so as to reduce the inner space between the two disks.

45. (Original) The process of claim 36, wherein the second container comprises a trough.

46. (Original) The process of claim 36, wherein the second container comprises an opening to allow a portion of the coating to flow from the second container.

47. (Original) The process of claim 46, wherein the opening further comprises a ledge extending from the opening.

48. (Original) The process of claim 47, wherein the ledge further comprises at least one vertical face.

49. (Original) The process of claim 36, wherein the coating flows from the second container as a thin curtain of coating.

50. (Original) The process of claim 36, further comprising transporting at least one food product beneath the second container.

51. (Original) The process of claim 36, wherein coating exits from the second container and flows downwardly to at least partially cover the at least one food product.
52. (Original) The process of claim 51, further comprising receiving in the first container excess coating that is dispensed from the second container but that does not cover the food product.
53. (Original) The process of claim 36, wherein the at least one food product comprises a dough-based product.
54. (Original) The process of claim 36, wherein the at least one food product comprises doughnuts.
55. (Original) The process of claim 36, wherein the coating comprises a sugar-based coating.
56. (Original) The process of claim 36, wherein the coating comprises a glaze mixture.
57. (Original) The process of claim 36, wherein the transfer of the coating from the first container to the second container provides a visual display which may be viewed by an observer.

58. (Original) The process of claim 57, wherein the visual display comprises a feature which may be displayed in a retail setting.

59. (Original) A process to transfer a coating from a first container to a second container comprising:

- (a) at least partially filling a first container with a coating;
- (b) positioning at least one wheel comprising at least two coaxial disks such that at least a portion of the wheel is positioned in the first container and at least a portion of the wheel is positioned proximate to at least part of the second container, wherein the two disks are spaced apart to form an inner space, and wherein the two outer faces of each disk comprise at least a portion of the outer surface of the wheel; and
- (c) rotating the wheel such that at least a portion of the coating from the first container is transferred to the second container.

60. (Original) The process of claim 59, further comprising rotating the wheel such that at least a portion of the outer surfaces of both disks is covered with the coating from the first container to at least partially fill the inner space between the two disks.

61. (Original) The process of claim 59, wherein the first container is positioned below the second container such that the wheel lifts the coating from the first container to the second container.

62. (Original) The process of claim 59, wherein the second container comprises a means to remove at least a portion of the coating from the wheel.

63. (Original) The process of claim 59, wherein the second container comprises at least one protrusion, and further comprising removing at least a portion of the coating from the wheel with the at least one protrusion.

64. (Original) The process of claim 59, wherein the second container comprises a first protrusion extending at least partially into the inner space between the two disks, a second protrusion adjacent to the outer face of the first disk, and a third protrusion adjacent to the outer face of the second disk, and further comprising removing at least a portion of the coating from the wheel with the protrusions.

65. (Currently Amended) An apparatus ~~product~~ for the preparation of food products comprising:

a heating unit for warming a pre-cooked food product; and

an apparatus for applying a coating to the warmed food product, wherein the apparatus comprises at least one wheel for transferring the coating from a first container to a second container positioned for holding at least a portion of the coating prior to deposition of the coating on the food product.

66. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 65, wherein the wheel comprises at least two coaxial disks, wherein at least a portion of the wheel is positioned in the first container and at least a portion of the wheel is positioned proximate at least a part of the second container, wherein upon rotation of the wheel, the wheel transfers coating from the first container to the second container.

67. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 65, wherein the first container is positioned below the second container such that the wheel lifts the coating from the first container to the second container.

68. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 66, wherein the two disks are spaced apart to form an inner space, and the two outer faces of each disk comprise at least a portion of the outer surface of the wheel.

69. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 68, wherein coating from the first container is capable of at least partially coating the outer surfaces of both disks and at least partially filling the inner space between the two disks as the wheel is rotated.

70. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 68, wherein the second container comprises at least one protrusion adapted to remove a coating from the wheel and to deliver the coating to the second container.

71. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 70, wherein the second container comprises a first protrusion extending at least partially into the inner space between the two disks.

72. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 71, wherein the second container comprises a second protrusion adjacent to the outer face of the first disk and a third protrusion adjacent to the outer face of the second disk.

73. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 68, wherein the second container comprises slots for insertion of each disk, such that as the disk rotates through the second container, coating is removed from the outer surface of both disks and deposited in the second container.

74. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 66, further comprising a second wheel, the second wheel comprising at least two coaxial disks, wherein the two disks of the second wheel are spaced apart to form an inner space, and wherein the two outer faces of each disk comprise at least a portion of the outer surface of the second wheel.

75. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 65, wherein the second container comprises a trough.

76. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 65, wherein the second container comprises an opening adapted to allow a portion of the coating to flow from the second container.

77. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 76, wherein the opening is adapted to allow a portion of the coating to flow from the second container as a thin curtain of coating.



78. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 65, further comprising a conveyor to transport at least one food product beneath the second container.
79. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 65, wherein the food product comprises a dough-based product.
80. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 65, wherein the food product comprises doughnuts.
81. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 65, wherein the coating comprises a sugar-based coating.
82. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 65, wherein the coating comprises a glaze mixture.
83. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 65, wherein the transfer of the coating from the first container to the second container provides a visual display which may be viewed by an observer.
84. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~product~~ of claim 83, wherein the visual display comprises a feature which may be displayed in a retail setting.